

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 remain in the application with claims 1 and 3 having been amended hereby and claim 5 having been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 3 and 5 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claim 3 has been amended hereby to supply proper antecedent basis for all elements positively recited therein.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Schein et al.

As previously noted the present invention is intended to provide a system for displaying a summary of incoming e-mail superimposed on a television picture currently being displayed on the screen. As explained in the specification at pages 5 and 6, for example, and as shown in Fig. 3, only the name of the sender and the subject of the e-mail are displayed at a predetermined position on the television picture being displayed, and the summary is horizontally scrolled. Then, each successive e-mail is subjected to the same procedure of horizontally scrolling the name and subject of the e-mail at the predetermined position on the television picture, so as not to obscure that television picture. In other words, the viewer of the television picture can determine the name of the sender and subject matter of the e-mail, while still watching the television picture being displayed.

Schein et al. relates to an interactive computer system

in which the viewer scrolls down through the messages and activates a window to enter a subcode menu, scrolls down the subcode menu to check the new message cell, and then activates that cell to display the messages that have been received.

There is nothing in Schein et al. that shows or suggests the feature of the present invention of superimposing only the name of the sender and the subject matter on the predetermined position on the television picture, so that the picture is not obscured and then horizontally scrolling the name of the sender and the title, so the viewer can learn the subject matter and sender of the e-mail.

The cancellation of claim 5 renders moot the rejection thereof under 35 USC 103.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Bellamy in view of Foladare et al.

In this rejection the examiner places a number of phrases in quotations. These phrases are taken from the claim being rejected and are not taken from the references.

Bellamy relates to a so-called integrated video system employing a so-called enhanced set top box. A video and telephone interface card is connected both to the internet and to the conventional telephone line. The enhanced set top box is instructed or controlled by means of an enhanced remote control unit that might include a track ball or the like. In an embodiment intended to deal with e-mail messages, it is disclosed that when an e-mail message arrives, a pop-up window with the mail programs is provided so that the appropriate

options for processing the message can be selected. The pop-up window is then fed to the enhanced set top box for display on the television set. In order to interact with the mail program, the enhanced features button of the enhanced remote control unit must be used.

Foladare et al. relates to an e-mail paging system in which the e-mail messages are transmitted over the internet and to a server so that useful messages can be identified and separated from junk mail. In one embodiment, the server transmits an alert signal over the television cable network to the television set top box and the set top box displays the sender's name and the title of the message or a summary of the message.

It is respectfully submitted that even combining the e-mail paging system of Foladare et al. with Bellamy that the presently claimed invention would not have been rendered obvious. Bellamy requires the enhanced set top box and the enhanced remote control unit to operate and, more importantly, Bellamy does not disclose superimposing only the name of the sender and the subject of the e-mail at a predetermined position on the television picture, so that the television picture is not obscured. Moreover, Bellamy does not disclose the scrolling of the name and title of the e-mail horizontally at the predetermined position.

It is respectfully submitted that Foladare et al. does not supply the features of the present invention missing from Bellamy because Foladare et al. does not disclose any superimposing of the name of the sender and the subject of the

e-mail at a predetermined position so as not to obscure a television picture being displayed. Furthermore, Foladare et al. does not disclose the feature of the present invention providing for the horizontal scrolling of the name of the sender and the subject of the electronic mail.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Bellamy in view of Cooper et al.

Once again, it is noted that the quoted portions in paragraph 10. of this office action are the features of the present invention and not the features of the references.

As noted hereinabove, Bellamy has certain deficiencies concerning suggesting the claimed features of the present invention.

Cooper et al. is cited to remedy the deficiencies of Bellamy. Nevertheless, it is respectfully submitted that the internet answering machine of Cooper et al. is simply just that, it is an answering machine that receives incoming e-mail messages and permits the user to delete all or part of the messages or to store the messages and the like. Although Cooper et al. discloses that the e-mail messages can be scrolled using the keypad and the display screen, there is nothing in Cooper et al. that suggests that only the name of the sender and the subject matter will be displayed at a predetermined position on a television picture, so that the picture itself is not obscured. Furthermore, applicants do not suggest they have invented scrolling, rather, it is the horizontal scrolling at the minor portion of the television

picture that forms a feature of the present invention, which feature is not shown or suggested in Cooper et al.

Accordingly, in view of the amendments made to the claims hereby, as well as the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that a television receiver that can display the summary of an e-mail message, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims, is neither shown nor suggested in the cited references, alone or in combination.

Entry of this amendment is earnestly solicited and it is respectfully submitted that this amendment raises no new issues regarding further consideration and/or search, because the invention has simply been recited in more detail but no new structure not previously set forth has been added.

The references cited as of interest have been reviewed and are not seen to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the amended claims.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP



Jay H. Maioli  
Reg. No. 27, 213

JHM:gr